

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year, exclusive of donations and subscriptions paid to the Treasurer, was \$51,380.51, made up as follows :—

From Government for public patients	\$30,831 05
From private patients	18,424 15
Interest on endowments	1,644 40
Articles sold, etc.	480 91

Total \$51,380 51

This is an increase in revenue over the preceding year of \$1,506.52.

The maintenance expenditure for the year (furnished by Secretary) was \$51,137.39.

From this it will be seen that the ordinary revenues for the year have exceeded the expenditure for maintenance by \$243.12, and this notwithstanding the fact that there was an increase in the latter over that for 1896 of \$465.86.

Based upon the above returns, the per capita cost per annum for maintenance was \$178.46.

OCCUPATION AND AMUSEMENT.

A wise man has wisely said: "If you cannot cure an insane patient, the next best thing is to make him as happy as possible." Broadly speaking, the foundations of recovery in the insane, and, failing recovery, happiness, are in pleasant surroundings, attention to physical comfort, freedom, as far as compatible with safety, and the provision of suitable employment and amusement. The old saying that His Satanic Majesty always finds work for idle hands is as applicable to the insane as to the sane, and employment, properly directed, is among the chief curative factors in the treatment of most forms of mental disorder. If it does not cure, it at least adds much to health and happiness, and goes far to lessen excitement, noise, destructiveness and the necessity for restraint.

Several institutions on this continent, notably Utica State Hospital, N.Y., and Rockwood Hospital, Kingston, Ont., have established large industrial departments, and justly point with pride to the good results derived therefrom, both from a medical and an economic standpoint. Dr. Blumer, Superintendent of the former institution, in an admirable paper on "The Medical and Material Aspects of Industrial Employment for the Insane," read at the Baltimore meeting of the American Medico-Psychological Association, last year, stated that at his hospital, during the previous year, the total value of goods made and sold, including printing and bookbinding, had amounted to about \$13,000. He further added: "The important fact to be borne in mind is that, given the building, the machinery,